207 weekly popular among the ordinary Arab reading
204 public. The staffs in the editing office of al-Muntadā were exchanged several times. Its chief editor was for a while Dr. Yūsuf Haykal who is now Mayor of Jaffa. The journal is currently edited by 'Abd ar-Raḥmān Bushnāq who formerly taught at the Government Arab College in Jerusalem. Policy decisions of al-Muntadā are made, of course, by the British authorities of the Government Press Bureau.

Art

531 In no sphere of the arts -- theater and music,
532 but notably painting and sculpture -- is Arab Pal-
517 estine blessed with a rich crop of creations (the situation is not much different in the field of poetry and literature, which will be discussed farther on). As a matter of fact, the achievements of the Palestine Arabs in this domain are negligible not only in relation to the cultural and creative standards of European countries but also in comparison with those of other Arab lands.

It seems that inactivity in the sphere of pictorial and plastic arts is a common characteristic of all Arab and Muslim peoples, which has its source in the religion of Islam. Nevertheless, tender buds of modern painting have emerged within recent years in several Muslim countries as, for example, in Egypt, but in Palestine such an embryonic development is not yet discernible if we disregard the very few individuals who are beginning to display an interest in drawing.

545 The theater, dancing and music constitute
517 artistic endeavors which are closer to the men-

545 tality of the Arabs and Muslims and more tra-
517 ditional in the realm of their culture. But also in this domain the Arabs of Palestine cannot boast of significant achievements. There are a few companies of actors all of whom perform according to patterns of Oriental tradition although attempts are being made to bring about a synthesis between this tradition of East and the conventional forms of the West. However, none of these theater troupes has risen to fame
533 in the wider Arab public. This statement is
517 equally true with regard to the Oriental orchestral groups of men and women musicians. While they succeed to earn their livelihood in the radio studios and at gatherings, weddings etc., none of them has yet acquired renown across the country, and certainly not in other Arab lands. When the Arabs of Palestine wish to enjoy the presentations of a famous group they invite one from Egypt. Incidentally, it is a widely prevalent custom that the orchestral leader or musician composes the songs which he performs, but the local Arabs have not attained distinction in this domain.

545 Theater and singing are also cultivated in amateur circles. As a matter of fact, the field of dramatics has more amateur groups than professional troupes, and there are a number of clubs dedicated specifically to stage performances. Several schools promote non-professional theatrics. Palestine has two competitive associations of Arab stage artists, both of them under the leadership of authors and script writers. These two organizations are the Society of Arab Actors under the direction of Khalīl Baydas and the Federation of Palestinian Artists headed by al-Jawzī who is a Christian Arab.